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Abstract of the Disclosure

A computer based book manufacturing, distributing and retailing system for the high speed reproduction of a single copy of a book. The system is especially adapted for direct consumer sales since the manufacture of a selected book can take place at the point of sale. Production of frequently changeable publications such as technical manuals is also contemplated as an exemplary utilization of the system. The system includes computer storage of the text, the color graphic cover and promotional sales information for a large number of books. A computer module permits the consumer to scan the sales information on a number of books and select a book to be purchased. Upon command, the system will automatically print the text and color cover of the selected book, cut the pages, as needed, to a predetermined size for that particular book and bind the pages and cover together while the customer waits for only three to five minutes.